

GATESHEAD STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP STEERING GROUP AGENDA

Tuesday, 6 September 2016 at 2.00 pm in the Whickham Room - Civic Centre

From the Acting Chief Executive, Mike Barker

Item	Business
2:00pm 1.	Apologies
	2. Minutes (Pages 3 - 6) The minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2015.
	3. Matters Arising
2:10pm 4.	Partner Updates ➤ Chance for all partners to raise current issues and activities as well as updates from the Partnership Boards and networks
2:20pm 5.	Item 05 - Support to the Voluntary and Community Sector in Gateshead (Pages 7 - 8) (Sally Young, Newcastle CVS)
	<u>Governance</u>
2:40pm 6.	Election of Chair and Vice Chair
2:45pm 7.	GSP Review (Pages 9 - 16) (Charlotte Wainwright, Gateshead Council) ➤ Agreement to review the GSP
	<u>Discussion</u>
3:00pm 8.	Gateshead Council's Change Programme (Julia Veall, Gateshead Council) ➤ Introduction to the areas being looked at in the Council
4:00pm 9.	Close

Next Meeting – Tuesday 22 November 2016 at 2:00pm

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Gateshead Strategic Partnership Steering Group

24 November 2015

Minutes

Present:	Cllr Mick Henry	Gateshead Council
	Richie Jackson	Northumbria Police
	Alison Dunn	Gateshead Advice Partnership
	Dave Escott	Tyne & Wear Fire & Rescue Service
	Helen Mathews	NEXUS
	Dominic Parker	Sage Gateshead
	Andrew Sugden	Northumbria University
	Craig Bankhead	Gateshead Older Peoples Assembly
	Carole Wood	Gateshead Council
	Cllr Martin Gannon	Gateshead Council

In Attendance:

Sheila Johnston	Gateshead Council
Charlotte Wainwright	Gateshead Council
Rosalyn White	Gateshead Council

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Jane Mulholland, Sandra Brydon, Esther Ward, Judith Doyle, Ian Atkinson, Vikas Kumar, Trevor Atkinson, Joan Moon and Martyn Strike.

2. MINUTES

The minutes were agreed as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. PARTNER UPDATES

- **Nexus**

The QCS Board has rejected proposals, three out of five public interest tests were failed. The outcome of the report will be provided to the Tyne and Wear Leaders Board to decide what will happen next. Officers are awaiting legislation around bus franchising in the new year.

- **Tyne & Wear Fire & Rescue Service**

Statistics from the Fire and Rescue Service were provided to the Group for the period over Bonfire Night. It was reported that across the Service there was a 9.6% reduction in the total number of incidents on 5 November. In Gateshead there were 21 incidents, which is a 50% reduction since 2010. It was reported that in the lead up to Bonfire Night there was a total of 448 incidents across the service, 53 of which were in Gateshead. It was noted that despite there being only one organised event in Gateshead this did not make any difference to the number of incidents.

It was reported that in September the targeted response vehicles were launched, to respond to secondary fires.

- **Sage Gateshead**

Commercial activity at the Sage is currently being looked at and there is a keen focus on the Gateshead community. There is also a mapping exercise to look at who are the participants and their needs, this will end in January. It was suggested that the findings would be beneficial to the Steering Group.

5. COUNCIL BUDGET PROPOSALS

The Steering Group received a presentation on the Council's budget consultation. It was noted that since 2010 there has been a 45% reduction in Government funding, leading to £110M worth of savings. This equates to £300 less per person to spend. There are now fewer people working for the Council resulting in reduced capacity.

The Medium Term Financial Strategy indicates that £78M will be required over the next five years, this will be front loaded with savings of £50M in the next two years. The provisional settlement will be received at the end of December so a clearer picture will be known then.

The Council Plan 2015-20 has been developed which focuses on working with partners and others to deliver positive outcomes for the people of Gateshead. The approach is around maximising growth, reducing costs and increasing collective responsibility.

A two year approach has been developed, approved by Cabinet on 3 November and currently out for public consultation. The consultation is in themed areas;

- Adult Social Care
- Children's Services
- Communities and Volunteers
- Economic Growth
- Environment
- Public Health
- Governance and Resources
- Efficiency and Effectiveness

Draft proposals for each area were outlined and partners were asked to discuss the consultation with their organisations. The consultation ends on 30 December and the 2015-17 budget will go to Cabinet and Council on 23 and 25 February 2016.

6. ACHIEVING MORE TOGETHER

Carole Wood gave a presentation to the Steering Group on how more can be achieved by working together to deliver Vision 2030 and through an asset based approach to meet the needs of the community.

Following initial discussions at the last meeting work is ongoing to look at specific areas in which to apply this approach, such as; health, adult social care and children's, environment and workforce.

It was noted that community engagement and partnership working are key to making the approach work. The Council is at the heart of the community, therefore it is important to look at how Councillors can be supported to be the voice of the community and mobilise action in local areas. It is important that the voluntary and community sector supports infrastructure to aid community development, capacity building and mobilising volunteers.

It was proposed that a session be held with Cormac Russell, he has worked with a number of local authorities to help them understand what this means to communities and the authority. The session will be held over two days, potentially 14 and 15 March 2016 and will involve groups of stakeholders, partners and communities. The Steering Group was asked to consider who should be engaged with for the event.

The Steering Group felt that this was a worthwhile approach as with reduced resources the Council moves from a paternal role to enabler. The Steering Group provided a comprehensive list of potential groups and organisations who should be included in discussions. It was agreed that the suggested list would be prioritised and mapped and conversations would continue prior to the event.

7. DEVOLUTION

Sheila Johnston gave a presentation to the Steering Group on the proposed agreement on devolution for the North East. It was confirmed that the proposed agreement has been signed which is a significant step, however it is still in the early stages so work is ongoing to ensure the right outcome for the North East and build on the strengths of the region.

The challenges for the area were identified, including; shortage of private sector jobs, skill shortages, under performing education and lack of confidence in place.

The proposed agreement sets out terms between NECA and Government to move forward with devolution of funding, powers and responsibilities. The final agreement is conditional upon;

- Formal approval by Councils, NECA and Ministers
- Legislative processes
- Spending Review
- Further public consultation

It was noted that in Gateshead work is ongoing to consult with as many groups as possible. Alongside devolved powers and responsibilities, new governance arrangements will be adopted, this includes the election of a Mayor for the North

East Combined Authority in 2017. It was also reported that the proposals must be considered in the context of further reductions in spending, however the North East Investment Fund will be used to help borrow and will create certainty through stability of investment opportunities.

It was noted that there will be additional and extended Enterprise Zones as well as decision making power on European funds. NECA also wants to ensure that businesses in the North East do not face higher costs than Scottish businesses. The costs of a Mayoral combined authority would come from the resources being devolved from Government.

Proposals around human capital development include an innovative strategy focused around transforming aspiration and opportunity through linking early years intervention with targeted community employment initiatives. In terms of transport proposals, NECA is working towards an upgraded transport system with devolved responsibility for all aspects of capital and revenue funding. It is proposed that a Health and Social Care Commission be established, to improve outcomes and reduce health inequalities. In terms of business and innovation it is proposed to simplify and strengthen the support available for business growth, innovation and global trade in the North East, to create more and better jobs. It is proposed to introduce new approaches to deliver sites for economic development use and drive housing growth, as well as devolved regulatory powers so local authorities can tackle key issues affecting their communities. Further details are being worked through the implementation plan.

The next steps of the process are continued consultation, themed consultation will be undertaken to plan the future work. The necessary legislation to put the proposals into effect is being considered in Parliament and it is expected to be in place by the end of the year. The individual councils will consider the proposals, with formal endorsement expected in early 2016.

The Steering Group was asked to feedback their views on whether the right areas for devolution have been highlighted, which are most important and whether there are other issues that should be included in negotiations. Feedback is to be provided to Sheila Johnston and Charlotte Wainwright.

8. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place at 2.00pm on Tuesday 23 February 2016, in the Whickham Room, Gateshead Civic Centre.



Gateshead Strategic Partnership Steering Group

Tuesday 6th September 2016

Support to the Voluntary and Community Sector in Gateshead

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform the Gateshead Strategic Partnership about the additional support offered to the voluntary and community sector in Gateshead.

Background

2. In April 2016 Newcastle CVS (Council for Voluntary Service) was invited to provide support to the voluntary and community sector in Gateshead. There are also other organisations, including Gateshead Council, which support local voluntary and community groups, however this note describes the specific services offered by Newcastle CVS.
3. Since April, the following initiatives have happened:
 - Setting up a base in the Age UK Gateshead office, in High Street Gateshead
 - Appointing three experienced support and development workers
 - Bringing the OurGateshead website up to date
 - Setting up a dedicated Gateshead support website
 - Attending a number of events organised by others
 - Organising 'meet and greet' events in five wards
 - Getting out and about to visit voluntary organisations which provide a variety of services and support to Gateshead residents
 - Supporting local organisations with funding bids
 - Extending the *Inform* newsletter to cover Gateshead
 - Extending the fortnightly *e-inform* e-bulletin to include Gateshead
 - Providing Gateshead-focussed information for *On The Hoof*
 - Making links with key partners in the Council, the NHS and other organisations
 - Attending and participating in key partnership boards and committees
 - Running some initial training events
 - Offering the full CVS service into Gateshead – financial management, payroll, governance support, business development and planning, funding advice etc
 - Linking with community organisations to find out about their needs
 - Using social media to get Gateshead information out quickly
 - Re-establishing the Gateshead Voluntary Sector Leaders Group

Proposal

4. It is proposed that members of the GSP Steering Group consider this activity from their particular perspectives.

Recommendations

5. The GSP Steering Group is asked to consider this report and make comments and suggestions.

Contact: Sally Young Chief Executive, Newcastle CVS 0191 2327445



Gateshead Strategic Partnership Steering Group

Tuesday 6th September 2016

GSP review

Purpose of the report

1. This report seeks approval to undertake a review of the Gateshead Strategic Partnership to ensure it continues to be fit for purpose.

Background

2. Local Strategic Partnerships were created to bring together representatives from the local statutory, voluntary, community and private sectors to address local problems, allocate funding, and discuss strategies and initiatives.
3. The aim was to encourage joint working and community involvement, and prevent 'silo working' (i.e. different agencies that share aims working in isolation) with the general objective of ensuring resources are better allocated at a local level.
4. Following the review of partnership working in 2010/11, it was agreed that future approaches to partnership working should be business and action focused and make best use of partners' time and resource.
5. This review also agreed the following five reasons for working in partnership:
 - i. Strategy and Executive (prioritisation and overseeing delivery of Vision 2030 outcomes)
 - ii. Commissioning (Analysis; Plan; Deliver; Review) (focus on resources and resource allocation to deliver priorities)
 - iii. Delivery (across all partnership structures)
 - iv. Performance and contract management (monitoring progress, ensuring accountability)
 - v. Consultation, information sharing and engagement (an inclusive approach - the 'Gateshead Family').
6. There are statutory requirements which need to be adhered to:
 - i. The requirement for local authorities and partners to have a **Children's Trust Board** and the wider duty to cooperate to improve children's wellbeing, as set out in section 10 of the Children Act 2004, remains in force. *Note:* The withdrawal of statutory guidance (31 October 2010 by the Department for Education) gave local authorities the flexibility to ensure that their Children's Trust Board fit with local Health and Wellbeing Board arrangements to suit their local context.
 - ii. Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 requires each local authority to establish a **Local Safeguarding Children Board** (LSCB) for their area

and specifies the organisations and individuals (other than the local authority) that must be represented on the Board, including those which the Secretary of State prescribes in regulations

- iii. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 requires the establishment of a **health and wellbeing board** for every upper tier local authority.
- iv. The Care Act 2014 sets out a clear legal framework for how local authorities and other parts of the system should protect adults at risk of abuse or neglect – **Safeguarding Adults Board**.
- v. **Community Safety Partnerships** (CSPs) were set up under Sections 5-7 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 to help to tackle crime and reduce reoffending. CSPs are made up of representatives from Police, Probation Service, Local Authority, Health, Fire and Rescue authorities.

Issues

7. All partners are in a different place to when the last review was undertaken (2010/11) but recognise that partnership working is still needed, especially in this time of reduced resource.
8. The current structure meets the statutory requirements but it is not to be said that these requirements cannot be met in other ways.
9. A number of meetings have been cancelled due to the number of apologies (not quorate) and a lack of business.
10. The Gateshead Local Safeguarding Children Board needs to consider the implications of the Wood Review (see Appendix 1) and the recent Ofsted inspection which concluded that it requires improvement to be good due to issues such as gaps in its membership, monitoring of services and lack of robustness in the analysis of its training.
11. These issues are leading to a number of different 'reviews' looking at different aspects of the GSP:
 - The **Children's Trust Board** are using their next meeting on Wednesday 21st September at 2.00pm as a development session to look at how it moves ahead and the joint aspirations of the Board.
 - The **Community Safety Board** are looking at ways to rationalise the number of meetings and
 - the **Economy, Environment and Culture** board (EEC) requires re-examination to consider:
 - is the Board needed?
 - if the Board is needed what it can contribute to the 'place shaping' agenda
 - how to avoid duplication and repetition between the Board and other partnerships.

Proposal

12. To review the GSP in its entirety to ensure that it adds value for all partners and delivers better outcomes for Gateshead residents.

13. Appendix 2 starts to outline the scope of this review and a proposed timeline for the key activities of the review.

Recommendations

14. The Steering Group is asked to agree
 - I. to a full review of the GSP and sub groups
 - II. that Appendix 2 should be used as the basis for discussions with Partners of the GSP

Contact: Charlotte Wainwright, Gateshead Council

Tel: 433 2061

Response from Government to the Wood Inquiry

Local Safeguarding Children Boards

The Wood Review argues that strong, effective multi-agency arrangements are ones that are responsive to local circumstances and fully engage the right people.

The review found widespread agreement that the current system needs to change in favour of a new model that will ensure collective accountability across the system. This is the view that has emerged from extensive consultation with a wide range of individuals and organisations and with independent experts such as Lord Laming and Baroness Jay.

We agree with that current arrangements are inflexible and too often ineffective. Meetings take place involving large numbers of people, but decision-making leading to effective action on the ground can be all too often lacking.

We will introduce a stronger but more flexible statutory framework that will support local partners to work together more effectively to protect and safeguard children and young people, embedding improved multi-agency behaviours and practices. This framework will set out clear requirements for the key local partners, while allowing them freedom to determine how they organise themselves to meet those requirements and improve outcomes for children locally.

To ensure engagement of the key partners in a better coordinated, more consistent framework for protecting children, we will:

Place a new requirement on three key partners, namely local authorities, the police and the health service, to make arrangements for working together in a local area. This would not change the existing statutory functions or duties on any of the agencies individually, but it will require more robust and much clearer arrangements to promote effective joint working, in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

To ensure these arrangements are multi-agency in their approach, we will:

In addition to the new duty on the three key agencies, place an expectation on schools and other relevant agencies involved in the protection of children, to co-operate with the new multi-agency arrangements.

The leaders from the three key sectors will be able to call on the support and co-operation of partner agencies, to form a clearer picture of how agencies are performing, and to make evidence-based decisions on how to achieve the best possible outcomes for children.

To simplify and strengthen the existing statutory framework around multi-agency working, we will:

Remove the requirement for local areas to have LSCBs with set memberships, often leading to large and unwieldy boards. Local areas that have strong and effective arrangements for multi-agency co-operation delivered through their LSCB will be able to retain them as long as they meet the new requirements. That means that the three key partners will take the decision to continue the arrangements because they see this as the most effective form of securing coordination. However they will be able to take advantage of much greater flexibility in developing arrangements that respond to local need and in which agencies are better invested. That flexibility will enable joint

identification of and response to existing and emerging needs and priorities and improve outcomes for children.

To ensure that local areas have robust arrangements in place for how the key sectors will work together, we will:

Bring forward legislation to underpin the new arrangements. We will support this with statutory guidance and we will work with the inspectorates to establish suitable review arrangements.

Require the three key sectors to establish governance arrangements and decide a range of issues, including the following:

- The area or region which should be covered under the joint arrangements;
- How they will involve and work with other agencies who have a key role in protecting children;
- A plan setting out details of the arrangements, which they will publish;
- Resourcing for the arrangements;
- How they will ensure a strong degree of independent scrutiny of the arrangements.

In cases where local arrangements do not work effectively, we will:

Provide for the Secretary of State to have power to intervene in situations where the three key agencies cannot reach an agreement on how they will work together, or where arrangements are otherwise seriously inadequate.

SCOPE

The Gateshead Strategic Partnership needs to be fit for purpose and enable efficient partnership working.

PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Working with all Partners, the current arrangements will be reviewed and recommendations will be made.

The following areas are included in the review:

- The GSP Steering Group
- Children's Trust
- Community Safety Board
- Economy, Environment and Culture
- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Local Safeguarding Children Board
- Safeguarding Adults Board
- Sub groups such as the Crime Confidence & Anti-Social Behaviour Group, JSNA Steering Group, etc
- Community Involvement and consultation groups e.g. Diversity Forum, DESUIF, etc

KEY MILESTONES

1. Review the governance arrangements and structure of the GSP
 - Need to make the best use of all partners time a resource?
 - Look at all possible scenarios e.g.
 - A number of areas have removed their LSP altogether
 - Some have a reduced amount of Boards
 - Who should lead on the various partnerships?
 - Within any new structure how could we best retain the wider engagement with stakeholders and the 'Gateshead partnership family'?
2. Partnership Working
 - Test the five reasons for working in partnership
 - Is Vision 2030 still viable?
 - The development of a Sustainable Community Strategy is no longer a statutory requirement
 - the Gateshead Strategic Partnership agreed the need for a strategic plan to inform its priorities and to monitor progress
 - Should the partnership be looking further ahead, 2050?
 - What partnerships do we need? Why?
 - What would a commissioning partnership look like?
 - Any implications of Devolution will be included in this review when they are clear e.g. Transport.
3. Membership and meetings
 - Need to ensure that the right people are around the right tables
 - Do we need new organisation of partnership – are all boards and groups still appropriate?
 - How do you think the partnership could work together more cohesively?

- Fewer formal meetings but space to informally share ideas and shape future policy direction.
- Duplication of Boards work programmes needs to be removed (links to accountability and responsibility)
- Whilst Gateshead is the focus of the partnership working, the geography covered by the various partners and organisations will be considered.

4. Accountability

- Need to be clear on responsibility and contribution
- Create a constructive environment to challenge and make decisions
- How to embed the Achieving More Together approach throughout the 'reviewed' GSP to help deliver outcomes

OUTCOMES

A partnership that meets all statutory requirements and results in effective partnership working which 'adds value' and is delivering better outcomes for Gateshead's residents and visitors.

All partners working towards the same vision and goals.

Business focused meetings which removes duplication to make good use of ALL partners time and resource.

APPROACH AND TIMESCALE

		Sept 16	Oct 16	Nov 16	Dec 16	Jan 17	Feb 17	Mar 17	Apr 17
Research	Agree Scope								
	Map out the partnerships, sub groups and consultation forums								
	National Best Practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from areas of the GSP partnership • Partnership (LSP) and Local authority areas 								
	Small survey to gain views on partnership working								
	Discussions with Partners								
	Develop Options paper								
	Discuss Options with all current Partners possible new partners								
Option Development	Agree preferred option(s) and any action needed to reinvigorate and improve effectiveness to help deliver better outcomes for Gateshead residents.								
	New proposals implemented								

